

make such returns within the time herein prescribed such chairman of the county board of elections, clerk or other officer whose duty it shall be so to do shall forfeit and pay to the state the sum of five hundred dollars, to be recovered by the attorney-general in the superior court for the county of Wake.

Failure to make such returns unlawful.

SEC. 83. That the secretary of state, within three days after the expiration of the time hereinbefore provided for the delivery to him of said certificates and returns shall deliver the same to the board of state canvassers, whose duty it shall be to then attend in the presence of such other persons as may choose to be present in the hall of the house of representatives in the capitol, open the certificates and returns and proceed to canvass the same and ascertain and determine the result: *Provided*, that if the returns from any county shall not by that time have been received by the secretary of state from the chairman of the county board of elections or clerk of the superior court then the board of state canvassers shall order and compel a duplicate return from the clerk of the superior court, and the chairman of the county board of elections or register of deeds or both in such manner as they may think best; and for that purpose they may adjourn from day to day, not to exceed ten days. The board of state canvassers in canvassing said returns shall merely add up the returns as certified by the county board of canvassers, but it shall be their duty to disregard any such apparent clerical error or any such technical uniformity as may not render it reasonably uncertain who was the person intended to be designated as voted for, and what was the number of votes actually received by any candidate. At the conclusion of the canvass the board shall make an abstract of all votes cast, and shall deliver the same to the secretary of state, together with the original returns from the several counties to be filed in his office. The secretary of state shall copy said abstracts in the "election book," directed in this chapter to be kept in his office, and shall under his hand and the seal of his office certify to the governor the names of as many persons receiving the highest number of votes for electors of president and vice president as the state may be entitled to in the electoral college. The governor shall thereupon immediately issue his proclamation and cause the same to be published in such daily newspapers as may be published in the city of Raleigh, wherein he shall set forth the names of the persons duly elected as electors and warn each of them to attend at the capitol in the city of Raleigh at noon on the Tuesday preceding the first Wednesday of December next after his election, at which time the said electors shall meet, and in case of the absence or ineligibility of any elector chosen, or if the proper number of electors shall for any cause be deficient, those present shall forthwith elect from the citi-

Secretary of state shall deliver certificate to board of state canvassers.

Proviso.

When returns are not received.

Board of state canvassers shall disregard clerical errors.

Announcement of result.

Meeting of electors.